Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1867

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL ADDIS ABABA 12050

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: FT, PINT

SUBJECT: ABDALLAH KAMIL INTERVIEW

SUMMARY: NOVEMBER 20 REVEIL DE DJIBOUTJ CARRIED INTERVIEW WITH TFAI COUNCIL PRESIDENT ABDALLAH KAMIL, FAVORABLE ARTICLE ON IVORY COAST STAND ON TFAI AT UN, AS WELL AS FULL TEXT OF ABDALLAH'S REMARKS BEFORE UN DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE ON NOV. 3 AND NOV. 10. ABDALLAH CONTINUES TO TAKE CONSTRUCTIVE, POSITIVE, AND PRO-WESTERN PUBLIC POSITIONS, AS UNUSUAL PRACTICE IN THE HOR. END SUMMARY.

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON ONE-HOUR MEETING WITH GISCARD D'ESTAING, ABDALLAH STATED HE AND GISCARD HAD TOUR D'HORIZON ON POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS POSED BY INDEPENDENCE. ON POLITICAL FRONT, TWO DISCUSSED POLITICAL STEPS BEFORE INDEPENDENCE WHICH LISTED AS: ORGANIZATION OF REFERENDUM, ELECTION OF ASSEMBLY, PREPARATION OF CONSTITUTION, APPROVAL BY FRENCH PARLIAMENT, AND FINALLY PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE. CONFIDENTIAL

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ABDALLAH NOTEDTHAT HE HAD STRESSED TO GISCARD NEED TO

ESTABLISH UNITED FRONT BETWEEN ALL TFAI POLITICAL FACTIONS.

- 2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION OF FRENCH ASSISTANCE IN VIEW GRAVE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES AFTER INDEPENDENCE, KAMIL STATED ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF TFAI WERE BOTH SHORT TERM AND STRUCTURAL LONG TERM IN NATURE. IN SHORT TERM, ABDALLAH INDICATED GISCARD HAD PROMISED UNSPECIFIED ASSISTANCE WHICH WOULD BE FINALIZED IN SEVERAL WEEKS. IN LONG TERM, TFAI MUST DEVELOP INFRASTRUCTURE BASED ON TERRITORY'S RESOURCES IN ORDER THAT ECONOMY NOT REST ON PRESENT ARTIFICIAL BASE.
- 3. ON QUESTION OF FORMATION OF GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION, ABDALLAH NOTED HIS GOVERNMENT WAS ALREADY GOVERNMENT OF UNITY. HOWEVER, NECESSITY EXISTED TO PERFECT THAT UNION.

 THEREFORE, CONFERENCE WOULD BE HELD IN PARIS BEFORE END OF YEAR WHICH WOULD INCLUDE BOTH LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND POLITICAL GROUPINGS IN DJIBOUTI. WITH RESPECT TO NATIONAL UNION FOR INDEPENDENCE. ABDALLAH NOTED THAT CONTACTS HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE WITH UNI, AND THAT HE HOPED IT WOULD PARTICIPATE IN POLITICAL STEPS LISTED IN PARA 1. HE NOTED NATIONAL UNION INDISPENSABLE FOR CONSTRUCTING FUTURE STATE AND THAT INTERNAL DIVISION POSED MORTAL RISKS.
- 4. ASKED ABOUT CONVERSATIONS WITH SECGEN WALDHEIM IN NEW YORK, ABDALLAH STRESSED HIS SUBSTANTIVE CONVERSATIONS WITH UN DEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS. IN NEAR FUTURE, GROUP OF UN EXPERTS WOULD VISIT DJIBOUTI TO INVENTORY POSSIBILIITES AND TO MAKE EXHAUSTIVE STUDY OF ECONOMIC REALITIES. FOLLOWING REPORT OF THIS MISSION, SPECIALISTS WOULD BE DELEGATED TO ORGANIZE DEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN SECTORS.
- 5. WITH RESPECT TO DISQUIET AMONG METROPOLITAN FRENCH IN DJIBOUTI, ABDALLAH STATED THAT DISQUIET WAS COMPLETELY UNJUSTIFIED, ALTHOUGH HE HAD IMPRESSION THAT PROBLEM WAS MINIMAL. RELATIONS WOULD REMAIN--AS ALWAYS-- CLOSE, AMICABLE, AND CONFIDENT.
- 6. IN SEPARATE ARTICLE, REVEIL TOOK FAVORABLE NOTE OF IVORY COAST (SIMEON ANKE) INITIATIVE AT UN. INITIATIVE REPORTED CONFIDENTIAL

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CALLED FOR ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA TO SUPPORT RECONCILIATION BETWEEN DJIBOUTI POLITICAL PARTIES AND MOVEMENTS, TO END THEIR QUARREL OVER TFAI, AND SCRUPULOUSLY RESPECT INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF FUTURE STATE.

FOR USUN: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING STATEMENTS ON TAFI OF ALL PARTICIPANTS BEFORE 4TH COMMITTEE WHEN AVAILABLE.

FOR DEPT. FRENCH TEXT OF ABDALLAH'S NOV. 3 AND NOV.10.

STATEMENTS BEING POUCHED AF/E. BELIEVE DEPARTMENT WILL FIND

PARTICULARLY INTERESTING ABDALLAH'S COMMENTS ON ECONOMY
TFAI AND QUESTION OF ETHIO-SOMALIA GUARANTEES.
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PRÉSIDENT ABDALLAH KAMIL, FAVORABLE A

TAGS: PINT, FT, IV, (KAMIL, ABDULLAH) To: STATE

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